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SOURCE Ta Kung Pao.

ANTIMONY IN HUNAN

In Hunan Province, the most abundant source of antimony is the Hsi-k'uang Shan in the central part of the province. The peak annual output here was 15,000 tons.

Hsi-k'uang Shan is at the center of a triangle formed by Hsin-hua, Anhua, and Lan-t'ien, and is about 10 miles north of the projected Hunan-Kweichow Railroad line. A recently constructed highway connects it with the city of Hsin-hua. The mountain is about 7 miles long and 3 miles wide, its long axis running northeast to southwest. An ore-bearing area is found at each end of the mountain. The entire mining area is about 1,125 acres. Of this, less than one tenth is operated by the government or jointly with private interests, the remainder by industrialists.

The rock formations are mainly Paleozoic sedimentary, with top layers of 30-60 meters thickness of coal-bearing limestone. Beneath these are thin iron-ore strata, then 140 meters of limestone, and below the limestone are quartz beds 50 meters thick. The quartz beds contain the stibnite ore.

Several parties of geologists who have made observations on the spot agree that the antimony ore lies almost entirely in the siliceous limestone, only traces being found above and below. It is more abundant in anticlinal fissures. Coal and iron are also found here.

Reserves of stibnite are estimated at one million tons, but further surveys are being made by the National Resources Commission.

The following table is taken from an estimate made by Wang Ch'ang-lun in 1934 of Hsi-k'uang Shan and surrounding region:

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<u>Locality</u>	<u>Mining Area</u> (1,000 sq m)	<u>Thickness of</u> <u>Ore Strata</u> (m)	<u>Sn Cr of</u> <u>ore Strata</u>	<u>Percent of</u> <u>Antimony</u>
1. Hsi-k'uang Shan	400	20	3.1	5
2. Mao-chia-tan	65	.6	2.8	2
3. Ch'i-li-chiang	590	10	3.0	4
4. Chiang-ch'ung	110	20	3.0	3
5. Niu-tsao-ch'ung	15	20	3.0	3

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